

CONSTITUTION
AND
By-laws
OF THE
YORK PIONEER
AND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
WITH AN
Annual Report
AND
LIST OF MEMBERS.

R. G. McLean, Printer.

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YORK PIONEER

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WITH AN

Annual Report

AND

LIST OF MEMBERS.

OFFICE BEARERS, 1903-4.

President:

WM. RENNIE, ESQ.

Vice-Presidents:

1st.—ELI. CRAWFORD, ESQ.

3rd.—JOHN HARVIE, ESQ.

2nd.—CAPT. WILLIAM MCCLAIN.

4th.—ALFRED WILLSON, ESQ.

5th.—ALEXANDER GIBB, ESQ.

Treasurer:

E. M. MORPHY, ESQ.

Secretary:

REV. W. W. COLPITTS.

Registrar:

ALFRED E. HAYTER, ESQ.

Committee of Management:

CAPTAIN JESSOP, Chairman.

JOHN. R. BULL, ESQ.

SAMUEL PARKER, ESQ.

LIEUT.-COL. MCGILLIVRAY.

JAMES R. BRIGGS, ESQ.

REV. H. S. MATTHEWS.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS.

Reading Minutes of the preceding meeting, which, when approved of, shall be signed by presiding officer.

2. Treasurer's Report.
3. Reading of Correspondence.
4. Transaction of Business Arising out of the Minutes.
5. Report of Committees.
6. Proposal and Election of Members.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. Payment of Dues.
9. New Business.
10. Adjournment.

BY-LAWS.

1. The President shall be ex-officio chairman of all meetings ordinary or special, when he shall be present.

2. In case of the absence of the President one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside, taking rank by seniority.

3. Should neither President nor Vice-Presidents be present at any meeting, ordinary or extraordinary, the members present may elect a member to preside, who, for the time being, shall be clothed with the powers of the President.

4. In case of two members rising to address the meeting at the same time, the presiding officer shall decide who has the floor.

5. Any member addressing the meeting shall do so through the chairman and shall not occupy the floor more than fifteen minutes without special permission.

6. At all meetings the chair is to be taken punctually at the hour appointed; and in case thirty minutes shall elapse without a quorum, the meeting shall stand adjourned.

7. The Secretary shall take minutes of all the meetings and read them at the next regular meeting, in order to their correction or confirmation.

8. The Treasurer shall take charge of all dues, fees and funds, and keep a correct account of the same, disbursing them under the direction of the Committee of Management, and be prepared to report at any regular meeting the state of the finances.

9. The Acting President may call a special meeting at any time when he deems it necessary, or at the request of three of the members.

10. The Officers of the Society shall be ex officio members of the Committee of Management.

CONSTITUTION

OF

THE YORK PIONEERS' SOCIETY.

1. This organization shall be called the York Pioneer and Historical Society, and is formed for the purpose of more intimately uniting in friendly relations those who are natives of, or who emigrated to, the original County of York (in the former Province of Upper Canada), and their descendants, who on attaining the age of forty years shall be eligible for membership.*

And for preserving and perpetuating such historical recollections and incidents, documents, and pictorial illustrations relating to early settlement of the country as are worthy of being rescued from oblivion; and by contribution of communications on these and kindred subjects to be read at the meetings of the Society and, when desirable, published in the Annual Report.

2. This Society shall consist of a President, five Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, Treasurer and a Registrar, with a Managing Committee consisting of Chairman and five members elected from the Society together with the officers of the Society.

3. The final direction of affairs of the Society, including the election of officers, the admission of members, and the disposal of its funds shall be vested in the Society, which may be acted upon at any of its annual, ordinary or special meetings.

4. Every candidate for admission to the Society shall be proposed and seconded at any meeting of the Society; and may

*When the first home district council met in Toronto on the 8th of February, 1842, it included the following townships: Adjala, Albion, Brock, Caledon, Chinguacousy, Essa, Etobicoke, Georgianna, Three Gwiliinsburys, Innisfield, King, Mara and Rama, Markham, Mulmur and Tossorontio, Medonte and Floss, two Orillias, Oro, Pickering, Reach, Scarboro', Tecumseh, Thorah, Tiny and Tay, Toronto, Toronto Gore, Uxbridge and Scott, Vaughan, Vaspra, Whitby, Whitechurch and York. In addition to these, in 1840 the Western boundary line included all between Owen Sound and Garafraxa and the Eastern boundary line extended from the township line between Whitby and Darlington, as far north as the Severn River.

be elected at the following meeting by a majority vote of the members present.

5. Every member on being elected shall, either personally or through his mover or seconder, pay his subscription of one dollar, previous to his name being entered on the roll of members; and a member's subscription shall date from the first of January preceding his election. Any member who shall refuse or neglect to pay his dues for two years after they have accrued, provided he has been notified of his delinquency by the Secretary, shall be considered as having withdrawn from the Society; and the Secretary shall erase his name from the list of members. Any person eligible, may be elected a life member on paying a fee of ten dollars.

6. Honorary members may be elected on the recommendation of the Managing Committee, but shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.

7. A general meeting of the Society shall be held annually, on the first Tuesday in March, for the reception of the financial report (the financial year ending on the 31st of December) and the report of the Managing Committee who will submit their nomination of officers for the ensuing year, and any other report that they may have to lay before the Society.

The Society will then proceed in addition to its ordinary business, to elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar, the Committee of Management and two Auditors. In case of any vacancies occurring during the year, by death or otherwise, the Society at the next monthly meeting may appoint a person or persons to fill such vacancy.

8. The Society shall hold ordinary meetings for the despatch of business and fraternal intercourse on the first Tuesday in each month, at the hour of two o'clock p.m., when the presence of seven members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

9. A special meeting shall be competent to entertain only the business for which it was specially called.

10. On a month's notice having been previously given the Society shall have power to amend its Constitution and make or alter a By-law.

11. No subjects involving differences in religion or party politics shall be considered proper for discussion.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st, 1904.

The Secretary in presenting his Annual Report wishes especially to note the very kindly feeling that still prevails among the members of the Association. It is often remarked that when men grow old that they become withered in affection, and crabbed in disposition, whether this be true in general or not may be a matter of opinion, but here month after month meet men in the sere and yellow leaf of life, men who have met and braved the storms of many a winter, men who have seen the graves of loved ones grow green in the far and winding path along which they have journeyed, and yet with genial smile and firm hand clasp, with humorous banter, and lively joke, gather as hale fellows well met; and when one after another drops out we send our respectful condolences to the bereaved families, and closing up our ranks march on with the innumerable company that ever move to the pale realms of shade. We cannot forget, and would not if we could, that there are names still familiar and forms present to memory that we shall see around our Board no more.

James Coulter, Esq., of Weston, a man of mechanical ability, upright and honorable in dealing, for many years a member of the York Pioneers, has gone from us.

Soon to follow was our late respected President, Rev. C. E. Thomson, M.A. He was educated at Upper Canada College and at Trinity University. For some years he took an active part in historical research. In the chair he joined gentlemanly conduct with business ability, and at our public functions presided with dignity and effect. We who were present that afternoon in October when he left the chair to attend another meeting, little thought as we saw him go out that he would never cross our threshold again.

Another of our old and respected members in the person of William Clarke, Esq., who was a very regular attendant at Pioneer Meetings, soon followed our President to that country from whence no traveller returns.

The last in the present list is William McGill, Esq., the first wood and coal merchant in Toronto. Coming to Toronto in 1871 he was very successful in business. For the past eight years he was afflicted with creeping paralysis, and was not able to attend our meetings. He too has passed over to the great majority; and so we take four names from our register, but we have added Dr. E. J. D. Fisher, Frederick Burrows, George Williams, Thomas Prince, George Harrison Wilson, Josiah Rodgers and Matthew Stone, seven, a net increase of three.

It must be a matter of great satisfaction to all the members of the Society that the year now closed has witnessed the completion of the Sincoe Monument, and we are permitted to congratulate ourselves that though Dr. Seadding, so long and deeply interested, was not on the earth to take part in the unveiling ceremony, yet we have in the chair to-day one, and I think the only one who survives, a member of the first committee appointed to undertake the work.

Never since your Secretary has had charge of the "Log Cabin" at Exhibition time has there been a more pleasant reunion than the one of the past year. Not only is this true of the "Pioneer's Day" itself, but of the fortnight that it was kept open.

On "Children's Day" a little more than 1,400 of the boys and girls in our schools visited us, and were greatly interested in the exhibit of the things of olden times and the explanations of their use that was afforded them.

For several days we averaged, by actual count, 290 visitors per hour, abundantly proving that not the least attractive place in the splendid Exhibition was the old Pioneer's Cabin. And now with the grant that the Government has so generously made us we hope to be still better able to illustrate some phases of the domestic life of the grand old veterans who delved and toiled to place this country in the happy position it now occupies.

Our meeting to-day, the first day of the first spring month, leads us to hope that the longest, and perhaps the hardest, winter the old folks have seen in this part of the Dominion, is soon to pass away, and the expanding buds on the trees and the green on the lawns will take the place of the pendant icicle and drifted snow.

And now we come to turn down the page of another year's records and bravely face the future. What that future may have in store for each of us no tongue can tell, but the thronging experiences of the past warn us to be prepared for every fate.

A little more grey in the lessening hair
Each day as the years go by;
A little more stooping of the form,
A little more dim the eye;
A little more faltering of the step
As we tread life's pathway o'er;
But a little nearer every day
To the ones that have gone before.

PRESIDENTS

OF THE

YORK PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

FROM ORGANIZATION IN 1869 TO 1904.

NAMES.	DATE OF ELECTION.		DIED.
	As Member.	As President.	
1. Col. R. L. Denison	May 15th, 1869	1869 to 1870 .	March, 1878.
2. Hon. W. B. Robinson	June 27th, 1870	1871 to 1872..	July 18, 1873.
3. Rev. James Richardson, D.D.	Aug. 27th, 1870	1872 to 1875..	March, 1875.
4.			
5. William Gooderham, Sr.	June 3rd, 1869	1878 to 1880..	
6. Rev. Henry Scadding, D.D. . . .	May 15th, 1869	1880 to 1898..	May 6, 1901.
7. Rev. C. E. Thomson, M.A. . . .	June 6th, 1882	1898 to 1903..	Nov. 15, 1903.
8. William Rennie, Esq.	Feb. 17th, 1879	1903 to	

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Annis, Andrew.
Akins, Hon. J. C.

Bull, John R.
Briggs, Wm. M.
Butt, James.
Brooks, D. O.
Barron, Robert.
Blackstock, Rev. W. S., D.D.
Blackstock, T. G.
Bigham, Samuel.
Briggs, J. R.
Burrows, Frederick.
Briggs, John.

Crews, Harry.
Charleston, Thomas.
Crocker, William.
Crawford, Eli.
Clarke, John.
Colwell, Henry.
Cawthra, Henry.
Crocker, James.

Durand, Charles.
Denison, Col. G. T.
Dixon, Alexander.
Duncan, James.

Evans, J. D.
Eastwood, W. N.
Fleming, John.

Gowan, Senator.
Graham, Thomas.
Glendining, F.

Hubbard, W. P.
Hayter, Alfred E.
Hasson, John H.
Hutty, J. H.
Hunt, George.
Harvie, John J. P.
Howland, O. H.

Jessopp, Capt. Dudley F.
Jackson, George.
James, Silas.

Kenedy, David.
Kyle Charles E.
Kersy, Thomas.
Kenedy, Lyman.

Lee, Thomas H.
Lamb, Daniel.
Lewis, Henry.
Lumbers, James.

Lawson, Robert.
Lennox, E. J.
Lawson, Joseph.

Moorly, Samuel.
Merritt, J.
Montgomery, W. J.
Morrow, John.
Maughan, J.
Milliken, William.
Matthéws, Rev. H. S.
Musson, Major.
Miller, W. M.
McBean, William.
McClain, William.
Macdonald, James.
McDonald, K.
McCaffery, James R.
McGillivray, Lieut.-Col. K. C.
McFarren, William.
McFarren, James.

O'Malley, J. D.
O'Keefe, Eugene.

Pease, Edward.
Pease, L. H.
Parker, Samuel.
Parsons, W. A.
Pennock, J. S.

Rennie, William.
Romaine, William.
Robertson, J. Ross, M.P.
Ross, William.
Rodgers, Asa.
Rodgers, Josiah.

Smith, S. R., D.C.L.
Small, John.
Shortis, Thomas.
Stewart, W. E. D.
Sargeant, James.
Stevenson, W. M.
Stone, Matthew H.
Sturdy, Charles.

Thomson, John D.
Tulley, Kivas.
Thompson, James.

Wilson, George H.
Willson, Alfred.
Williams, George.
Westman, Elijah.
Tingle, J.
Wright, George.

